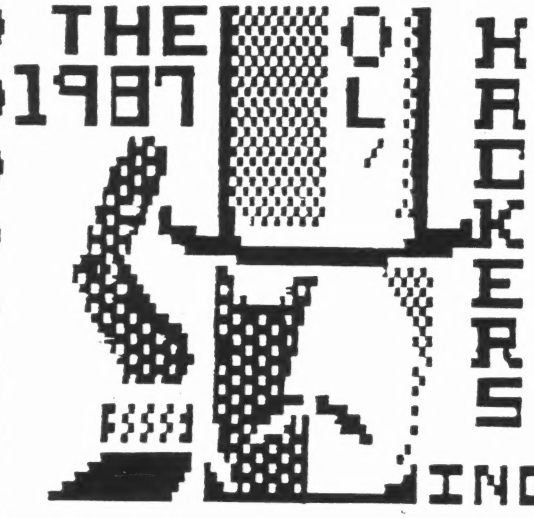

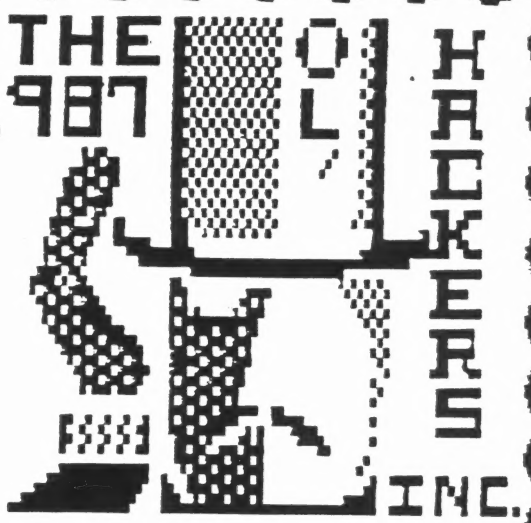

THE OL' HACKERS NEWSLETTER

Aug 87

THE ATARI O.H. 1987 INC. USER GROUP

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THE ATARI O.H. 1987 INC. USER GROUP

The Ol' Hackers Atari Users Group Inc.

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All submission to this newsletter should be sent to The Ol' Hackers or uploaded to our BBS at (516-884-4140). All text must ASCII format. All disks will be replaced by the user group at the meeting.

Thank you,
The Editor

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We also will NOT Tolerate any references which either directly or by implication, to PIRACY, or the use of computer Equipment for any ILLEGAL activities.

Advertising rates will be posted in future NEWSLETTERS, We will keep you posted.

Thank you.

This NEWSLETTER has been put together with the combined efforts of the following members,

THE Editors:

Alex Pignato
Al Beitchman
Kevin Blaes

Special Thanks To Jim Finnegan(I Hope thats you spell it!!). For helping out with the printing...Thanks JIM...

Kevin

The Presidents Message

The President's Message August 29, 1987

By Alex Pignato

The summer doldrums hit the OL' Hackers if the attendance at the AUGUST 25th meeting was any indication. I believe it was the smallest turnout since we have been meeting at the library, which is more than a year. I didn't take a head count, but I would say that about 25 members attended. Our secretary has the attendance sheets and will probably tell us in the monthly minutes. In spite of that, because of the brisk sales of disks, and raffles, the treasury is a little less anemic. In reading t he many newsletters that we get each month, I can tell you that each club suffered the same fate of a small turnout! There was one advantage of a small group, TOM CARROLL brought his usual ample supply of ENTENMMENNS cakes, and after everyone stuffed themselves, we raffled off 2 prizes of 2 cakes each, so two families got to eat cake that weekend!

Starting with the September 26th meeting, AL ATKINS has agreed to be in charge of the NEWSLETTERS that we have received, and they will be available to our members on a loan basis 3 at a time at the meetings. He will take your name, and you are e xpected to either bring them to the next meeting, or to mail them to AL ATKINS. These are very precious to the club because they show the pulse and heartbeat of the ATARI community, so please cooperate so that everyone can read them!

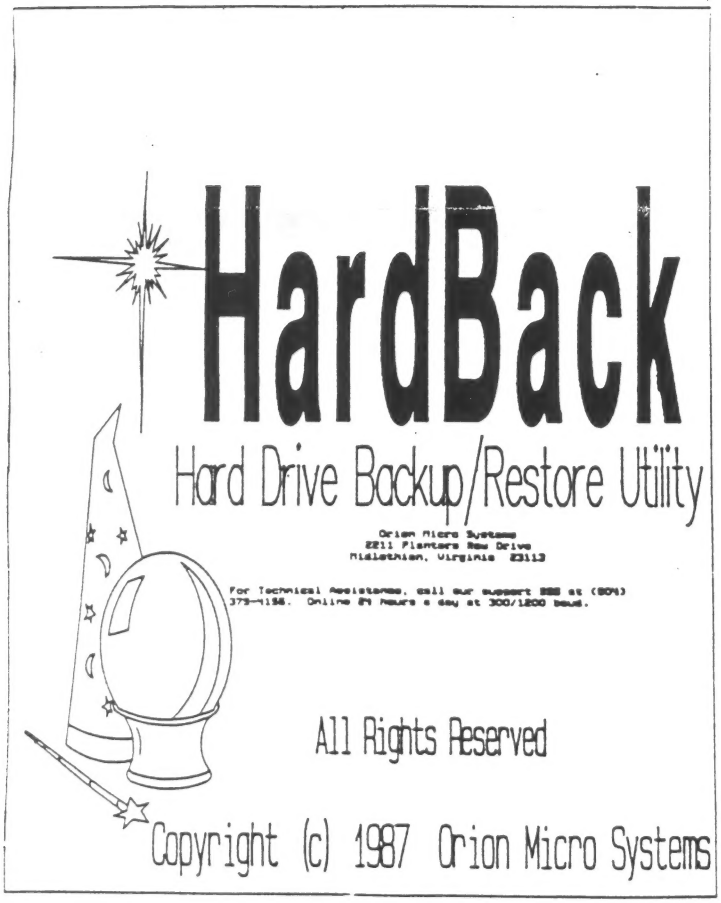
I, and many others at the meeting, were unhappy over the fact that we could not get commitments from at least 20 members (and their guest), for a social affair in December as suggested some time ago by JERRY GINSBERG. We know that 23 people would attend (I have the sheet in which they signed up) but we must have at least 40 people in order to make a reservation. If you want to attend, I suggest you contact JERRY in person or by phone at his office (718-591-6900) as soon as possible, because December is a busy month for restaurants. I believe the price will be about $17.95 per person for a full course meal, and you buy your own drinks!

Speaking of December, let me remind you that is when a new slate of DIRECTORS must be elected to carry on for the OL' HACKERS. We have come a long way from December 1985, but there is still much we can do as a strong cohesive ATARI club. Give tho ught to who will be the people to carry on. Don't make it an election without thinking it through. We need good people who will be willing to work for the advancement of the club. I can tell you that it takes a lot of work, but the reward is in seein g the club grow, and getting to work with some of the nicest guys ever, and also developing lasting friendships. It is an honor to be elected to a leadership position, with so many nice people in the group. You should be proud if you are nominated. A nomination committee should be appointed in September, who will be asked to nominate a slate of DIRECTORS at the November meeting. The slate will be printed in the minutes, and in December elections will take place. Of course nominations will also b e accepted from the floor. As I said before, PLEASE START THINKING NOW! If you have a suggestion call or speak to one of the nominating committee, they will be glad to evaluate your suggestion. Maybe you would like to run, if so, speak to one of the nominating committee members, and you will be considered by the committee. The future of any club rides on the shoulders of its officers, and directors, and I think we all would like to see the club continue to grow and be a source of friendships and knowledge.

I would like to also congradulate our BBS (The Ol' Hackers BBS) for being selected as one of the three BBS's in the country to BETA

test Orion Micro Systems NEW updated version of BBS EXPRESS called "EXPRESS PRO". I hope that all members support Kevin's efforts by putting the BBS through its paces, and post your likes and dislike of this new version, you continued support to our BBS is very important. The Ol' Hackers BBS (516)-884-4140. Thanks also goes out to Keith Ledbetter and Chris King for our selection as BETA testers.

BYE, TILL NEXT TIME -- A.A.P.



The Ol' Hackers BBS Network

The Ol" Hackers BBS	300/1200 Baud
Express BBS	(516)884-4140
The Graveyard BBS	300/1200 Baud
Express BBS	(516)783-7034
Clearing House BBS	300/1200 Baud
Express BBS	(516)483-7845
Wise Byte BBS	300/1200 Baud
I.B.M. BBS	(516)349-7835
Bandit's Hideout	300/1200/2400 Baud
Express BBS	(516)643-4963
Mister Message BBS	300/1200 Baud
Express BBS	(516)454-7698
Wet N' Wild BBS	300/1200/2400 Baud
Southern AMIS	(516)412-4161
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PKAIMS	(516)422-5363
W.Q.N.R. BBS	300/1200 Baud
Express BBS	(516)698-7456

HELLO OL' HACKERS:

ELECTION TIME IS COMING!

START THINKING OF WHO YOU WILL BE

VOTING INTO OFFICE!

A.P. 9/87

HOW TO SET UP 850 EXPRESS TO AUTOANSWER AND AUTOSAVE INCOMING TEXT OR DATA

(Reprinted from an article by Bob Fasoldt in *THE ACORN KERNEL Newsletter*, 8/87)

More and more people are buying personal computers and a fair percentage of them are purchasing modems. Electronic mail is not just a thing of the future or just for the wealthy. You can set up your own "electronic mailbox" and receive mail when your away from home or sleeping! Let me explain ....

I live in Florida and the rest of my family is scattered across the Eastern United States. Many of my family members own personal computers and modems so we sent text files to each other instead of letters . . . and the best news is that it is o often less expensive than the mail service. I have been communicating with my family for about two years in this fashion and find it highly reliable and rewarding, plus it is immediate! When I get up in the morning, the first thing I do is turn on the monitor to see if any E-mail has come in. If so, I immediately save it to floppy, even before I read it so nothing can happen to it.

At first, we were using MPP 1000's because their software supported unattended downloading. But soon I grew tired of 300 baud and purchased the Supra 1200AT which also supports unattended downloading. That software, however, did not support t he 512K Ramdisk on my XE, so I began to look for other software for this purpose.

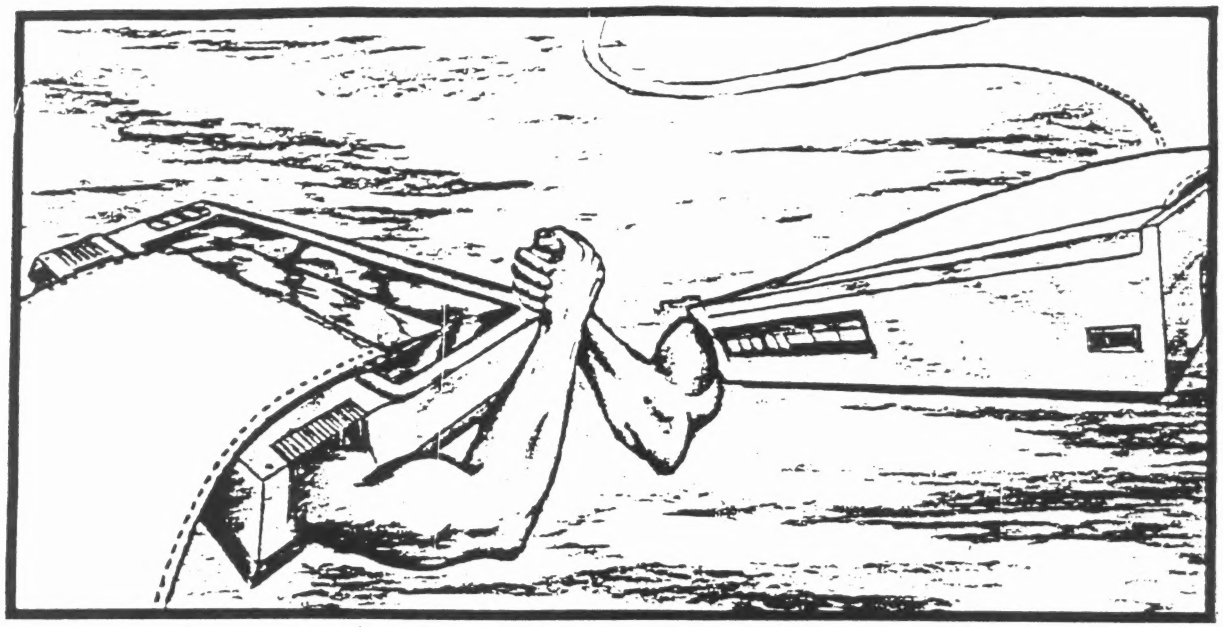
In my opinion, Keith Ledbetter's EXPRESS! is by far the best telecommunications program available. I began to wonder if this fabulous program could possibly be set up to autosave to buffer or to disk unattended. Nowhere in the 850 Express docs was there any mention of this so you can imagine my excitement and happiness to discover that 850 Express could indeed download and save while no one was around! And, wow, is it easy to do! Here is how:

Boot up your 850 Express! modem program (I use version 3.0, I don't know if earlier versions will support this) and turn on your modem. From the main menu hit 'ESCAPE' (which forces the program to think you're on line) and then press 'OPTION' (which save anything that some in to buffer. Set up this way, as soon as a call comes in, the modem will autoanswer and save to buffer any incoming text. To check to see if any file has come in, simply turn on your monitor (I also hit the 'SPACE' ba r at this point to prompt the computer out of the attract mode, i.e., changing colors, etc.). If text is on the screen, hit 'START' to go to the main menu and save the buffer to floppy. This will clear the buffer so now just view that file from the floppy or read your mail from a word processor.

This has been tested on the iSupra 1200AT, Avatex 1200 and Avatex 1200hc and should work the same on most Hayes Compatible modems. To test your modem to see if it will indeed work in this fashion, turn your computer and modem off, turn your disk drive off and your computer back on so only the 'READY' prompt of BASIC is showing. Turn your modem back on as if you were going to use it. Now have someone call your number. (If you live in Pinellas County and have GTE telephone service you can dial your own number, wait for the recording saying that you've dialed your own party line and hang up). If your modem answers the phone without having a program to tell it do so, then it will work perfectly as described. If, however, your phone rings and your modem does not respond, you may have to command it to autoanswer in this way:

From the main 850 Express menu, choose

When Printers Get Down to Business



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A complete program lister and graphics dumper. This utility is used by most national Atari magazines to print out program listings for publication; but it's much more. Print graphics, 7+/8 and Koala screens, and Printware Series files in multiple sizes. Type direct from the keyboard to the printer in your own custom created fonts or one of the 17 fonts that can be down loaded to your printer. 48K disk

P.S. Interface $29.95 By Castell *

A value-added Print Shop™ interface utility that raises graphic output to new levels of clarity and compatiblity. Integrate Typesetter icons with Print Shop™ fonts and graphics. Convert Print Shop™ fonts to Typesetter icons and select from our four sizes of output. Design custom Print Shop™ fonts and graphics with the P.S. Interface drawing program. 48K disk

Picture Disks $19.95 By Brabson

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Page Designer $29.95 By Dorfman & Young

A layout utility that lets you plan an 8½"×11" page on your screen and then print it. Mix text, graphics and Typesetter fonts for fantastic two-column newsletters. Two text modes; 40 column allows any Atari character set, 80 column puts twice as much information on the same page. Page Designer works with other Printware Series software. 48K disk

Rubber Stamp $29.95 By Dorfman, Young & Dellinger *

A collection of XLEnt creative utilities that let you build a library of high resolution icons, including converted Print Shop™ icons. Create up to four icons at once, and use the only 16×16 character set and text editors available for your Atari. Control the height and width of characters to get 32 different character sizes. Print up to 99 graphic labels with the special label printer. 48K disk

1st XLEnt Word Processor $29.95 By Castell

A fully featured, friendly and fast word processor. 1st XLEnt Word Processor uses a joystick and icon interface, has toggle between full-screen windows, and a very readable 80-column print preview to see what your document will look like. According to Antic Magazine's January '87 review, 1st Word is, "As good or better than any other word processor you'll find for the 8-bit Atari". 48K disk

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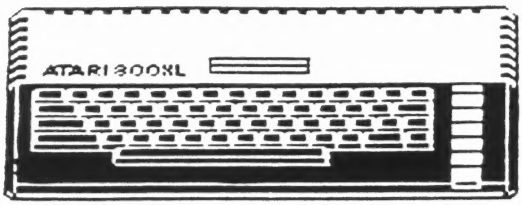

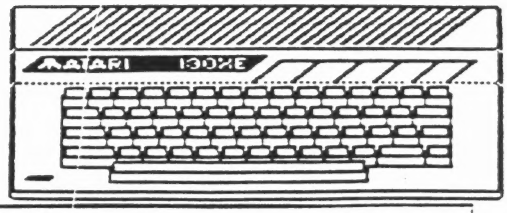

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ASCII (not ATASCII) translation. How, hit 'ESCAPE' and with your modem turned on and ready to receive data, type "ATAA:" Then, hit 'RETURN'. (This in all Hayes Compatible modems commands the modem to autoanswer). Now, hit 'OPTION' to save any incoming info to buffer and you're all set. Remember, in this configuration you are saving to buffer so the size of your buffer depends on the DOS you are using.

Here are my experiences: 1. ATARI DOS2.0,2.5 gives you 3328 bytes 2. SpartaDOS 3.2 give a buffer of 4608 bytes 3. SpartaDOS 2.3 gives the larger buffer of 8064 bytes, big enough for most all your letter capturing needs.

For those of you who expect great volumes of incoming text, you'll want to save direct to ramdisk or floppy disk. In order to do this, you must fool the program into thinking it is on line while you set this up. Here is how you do this:

Most Hayes Compatible modems have dip switches. On the Avatex and Supra modems you would push switch #7 down. This is the CD (forced carrier detected) switch. On the above-mentioned modems, the down position is the "on" position. With the CD switch activated, the express programs thinks it is on line. It seems to do no harm to leave this switch on while waiting for a file to come in. Just be sure you return the switch to the "off" position before making your next call or you'll get a false "connected" indication. Keep in mind that this switch need not be turned on when autosaving to buffer.

So, to autosave to disk, turn on your CD dip switch, hit 'ESCAPE' from the main menu to force terminal mode, it 'START' to re-enter main menu, type "T" to capture to disk. You'll be asked to give it a file name and as soon as you do and hit ' RETURN', you'll be all set to save to disk. Do not hit 'OPTION' to autosave to disk, autosave is already turned on by choosing the "T" function. Plus, you can always tell if autosave is on just by looking at the border color of your screen.

Things to keep in mind: 1) Whenever you are sending directly to another computer, you MUST use HALF DUPLEX. Use full duplex only when communicating with a BBS. If you are setting up to autoreceive, it is preferable to be in half duplex but it is ABSOLUTELY necessary for the sending modem to be in HALF DUPLEX. 2) It is probably best to use the standard ASCII translation unless you know for sure that only ATARI computers will be sending you files. In that case, ATASCII. No harm will come, however, if someone sends a text file to you in ASCII and you are receiving in ATASCII, as long as it is just text. You could not send inverse characters and CONTROL characters unless both sending and receiving terminals were in ATASCII. 3) If you don't have a copy of 850 Express! version 3.0, ask your Sysop to post it for you. If he doesn't have it, contact me, Bob Fasoldt, MODEM: (813) 393-0173 [Rochester, NY, areal, and I'll get it to you. 4) I only know for sure that this method of autosaving works with 850 EXPRESS! VERSION 3.0. I know it does NOT work with MPP Express version 1.0. I haven't tried it with 1030 EXPRESS although I feel it probably would not work since the 1 030 does not come with a ring detector. 5) I truly recommend SpartaDOS 2.3 because of the large buffer it gives and it will read and write to most any other DOS.

I sincerely hope I didn't make this sound difficult to set up ... it's not. In MOST cases, you simply turn on your modem, boot the program, hit 'ESCAPE' and the hit 'OPTION'. And that's all! If you have any question, comments or just want to try it out, you can call my autosaving 850 Express at (813) 393-0173 between the hours of 1:00AM to 8:30AM, 300 baud HALF DUPLEX, ATASCII (ASCII will work find if you don't have ATASCII). autoreceive at 300 baud because not all my

family members have 1200 baud yet ... but I have a feeling that it won't be long!!! Remember, also that when you call another modem set up to autosave, you receive no prompts when the modem answers the phone. As soon as the connection is made, you are "live" with. the other computer. You may then type your message or send a pre-typed file from disk. DO NOT SEND XMODEM to me since I do not set up my program to receive that way.

I sincerely hope you receive some enjoyment out of this information.

XE CONSOLE KEY FIX (Reprinted from The Acorn Kernel, 8/87; originally in Current Notes, 3/87)

The following fix for intermittent or complete failure of the HELP, START, SELECT, OPTION and RESET keys comes for an ATARI Technical Advice Notice dated July 25, 1986. According to ATARI, the problem is caused by excessive voltage drop in the keyboard and the keyboard connector (JB). This is caused by oxidation or contamination of the metal film on the flex circuit. The ATARI recommended fix may be accomplished by proceeding as follows:

1. Remove the flex circuit from the edge connector (JB).

2. Carefully remove any oxidation or contamination from the metal film (side with circuits in black). DO NOT USE EXCESSIVE FORCE, AS THIS WILL DESTROY THE TRACES.

3. Shim the non-conductive side of the flex circuit (silvery-colored side) with any material. It should be .002 - .010 inches thick (Scotch brand "magic" transparent tape will work).

4. Remove R95; a 220 Ohm resistor to pin 2 of JB.

5. Replace R95 with a 1K Ohm 5% resistor.

6. Replace shield and re-insert flex circuit to JB.

7. Reassemble and test keyboard and computer functions.

The cleaning and shim will minimize the recurrence of the poor contacts. The resistor change lowers the LED drive current and thereby reduces the voltage drop across contacts thus eliminating the problems.

8-BITARC QUESTIONS (Reprinted in an article by Ralph Walden, ACE BBS Sysop from The Acorn Kernel, 8/87; originally from the ACE Newsletter, 6/87)

The following is a list of the most commonly asked questions about the 8-bit version of ARC and ARCX.

Q: When I run ARCX, the disk drives run, the screen goes off, and then nothing happens. I have to hit System Reset to get out of it. A: ARCX does as much work in memory as possible. This means a long time can go by before it actually starts writing to your disks. Let ARCX run - if two minutes go by without any activity, then you have problems.

Q: When I deARC the file, it has a duplicate 128-byte block at the end. Why does this happen? A: ARC and ARCX have no concept of "blocks." If you get a garbage block, or a duplicate block, then the person who ARCed

the file had a bad file to begin with. This commonly occurs when a terminal program and BBS don't agree on how to end the file transfer.

Q: Since almost all files are "squeezed", wouldn't it be easier just to forget about the "stored" and "packed" method in order to speed up the ARCing process? A: The "stored" length is the actual file length, so very little calculation is done to get this value. All input is "packed" before being "squeezed." The result is, all three types of compression are known as soon as ARC calculates the "squeezed " length with no additional overhead. I have tried "squeezing" an unpacked file and it ends up larger.

Q: Couldn't you make a special 130XE version so you can add the "crunched" routine to the other three? A: I could, but it doesn't make much sense. It will eliminate the possibility of a 64K RAM disk, tying the entire I/O to floppy disks. Between this and the constant swapping of bank memory will make a very slow ARC. On the ST, I implemented a mo re efficient version of "crunched" than the standard ARC found on ST's, IBM's, etc. The result is a full implementation of "crunched" with no need for the "squeezed" routine. The problem with "crunched" is the need for a 30K buffer area. It could be reduced by 5K by using a 3-byte data type, but neither C or any other 8-bit language supports a 3-byte data type. This means, I need to do it in assembly. There are other problems, though less severe such as the need to do long integer division, having to use note and point to fill in the header information, etc. Needless to say, it is not a project I relish doing. I am implementing the "crunched" routine in assembly on the ST, and when completed I will at least consider porting it over to the 8-bit.

Q: Could you implement a version to allow the user to swap disks? A: I could, but it's not practical. You'll have to swap disks 15-20 times to extract a full single density disk. You will not find many ARC files which cannot be extracted on a single density disk, and this is reduced even further if the "crunched" routine is used. For example, the ACE BBS which has about 4 megabytes of 8-bit ARC files, only has 1 file which cannot be extracted with a single density disk.

AVATEX 1200 MODIFICATION (Reprinted from STATUS, 7/87; Originally taken from HACE Newsletter, 3/87)

#1 PURPOSE: Add Hi-speed carrier detect to become 100% Hayes Compatible.

DISCLAIMER NOTICE COLOR-NET, STATUS and The OL' HACKERS take NO RESPONSIBILITY for any damage caused by this modification! If done correctly, this mod works.
****

#2 PARTS NEEDED: ONE (1) MC1488 CHIP RADIO SHACK #276-2520 (RS-232 DRIVER) TWO (2) FEET OF 20 GAUGE HOOKUP WIRE

#3 GETTING STARTED: After opening up the modem, locate IC #U30 (located by the RS-232 connector). Take the new IC and fold up all pins EXCEPT -- #1, 7, 14!!! Now, piggy-back the new IC on the IC #U30. Using a light wattage soldering gun, solder pins #1, 7 and 14 of the new IC to pins #1, 7 and 14 of the IC #U30. Now take a wire from pin #2 of the new IC to pin #12 of IC #U23 (located just behind the leds). Now take a wire from pin #3 of the new IC to pin #12 of the RS-232 connector. Now take your wire to pins #4, 5, 9, 10 and 12 and solder these pins together (We're making a heat sink to keep the new chip from overheating). After you have soldered all these pins together, solder a wire from

board ground (of the modem) to these pins! Thats it!! To test what you have just completed take a piece of wire and ground the cathode end (banded side) of the HS led, if all was done correctly, the HS led should light, and with a VOM connected to pin #12 on the RS-232 connector, you should read about +8 volts or so.

If this proves too difficult, we suggest that you write the COLOR-NET Sysop who presented this procedure originally at: SYSOP (COLOR-NET) P. O. BOX 2192 PETERSBURG, VA 23004 to inquire whether the services of making these mods, testing and servicing it are still available. If you get a 'Yes', then he suggests you send it by US Mail only for UPS will not deliver to a PO Box.

AVATEX 1200 SPEAKER MODIFICATION (Reprinted from the STATUS Newsletter, 7/87; originally taken from HACE Newsletter, 3/87)

Here is a simple little upgrade that you can add to your Avatex 1200 modem in about a half hour.

PARTS NEEDED: One (1) Radio Shack Mini Amplifier Speaker #277-1008b One (1) Mini Phone Plug #277-286 Two (2) 20 gauge wires (about 1 ft. long) One (1) Nine-volt battery

Start by disconnecting everything from your modem, then flip it upside down and remove three screws from the bottom. Turn the modem over again and remove the top cover. In the middle of the modem, there is a raised board, right behind its rear left corner is a small eight pin IC-U27. Carefully solder one wire to pin one of U27 and then solder the other to pin five of U27. Now, slide both wires through the cooling slots in the side of the case and through the cover for the phone plug. solder the wire that is connected to pin one of U27 to the center tap of the mini-phone plug. Solder the wire from pin five to the outer tap of the mini-phone plug and slide the Plug's cover over the connections. Now, put the cover back on the modem. Insert the phone plug into the upper phone plug jack (input) and adjust the volume as required to obtain the best results.

Now, you can hear the dial tones, busy signals, rings and voice audio. You'll be able to tell if those BBS's that are so hard to connect to are really that busy or just down. Be sure to turn the min-amp off when not in use. The nine-volt battery will last a lot longer.

I have had this modification installed for about a month now and haven't experienced any programs with my modem or terminal software. I use it every time I call other BBS's and find it to be a worthwhile addition. One more thing: if you remove the cover of your Avatex, you can consider the warranty to be null and void.

"COMPUTERIZE" YOUR OWN NAME Courtesy of the OL' HACKERS ATARI USERS GROUP, Inc.

It's as easy as A, B, C . . .

Every piece of information a computer receive or transmits is reduced to a pattern of electrical pulses "on" represented by a 1 and "off" by a 0. As the chart below shows, the letter a, in "computer talk," is written 01000001. Try figuring out your own name in the American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII).

A 01000001	S 01010011	j 01101010	0
00110000 B 02000020	T 01010100	k	
01101011	1 00110001 C 01000011	U	

01010101 1 01101100 2 00110010 D
01000100 V 01010110 m 01101101 3
00110011 E 01000101 W 01010111 n 01101110
4 00110100 F 01000110 X01011000 o
01101111 5 00110101 G 01000111 Y 01011001
p 01110000 6 00110110 H 01001000 Z
01011010 q 01110001 7 00110111 I 01001001
r 01110010 8 00111000 J
01001010 a 01100001 s 01110011 9
00111001 K 010010011 b 01100010 t
01110100 L 01001100 c 01100011 u
01110101 space 00100000 M 01001101 d
01100100 v 01110110 . 00101110 N 01001110
e 01100101 w 01110111 , 00101100 O
01001111 f 02200220 x 01111000 -
00101101 P 01010000 g 01100111 y
01111001 " 00100010 Q 01010001 h
01101000 z 01111010 ' 00100111 R 01010010
i 01101001

GERMAN TURBOBASIC COMPILER COMMANDS

(Reprinted from the REACH Newsletter, Edmonton, Alberta CAN, Article by Mike Brown)

Here are some loose translations of 'Turbo Basic COMPILER COMMANDS':

1. Welches program soll compiliert werden? Which of these programs should be compiled?

2. Geben sie zuerst die laufwerksnummer zwishchen 1 und 8 ein, und wahlen das programm dann mit den pfeilstein +*-= ! First give the drive number between 1 and 8, then choose the program with the arrow keys +*-= !

3. Dann return drucken! Then press return!

4. Ruckker zum DOS! Return to DOS!

5. Keine fehler progammlaenge! No errors program length!

6. Filename -# in zeile nnnnnn! Error in "word" nnnnnn (Perhaps this means that a command was used improperly?)

7. Bitte eine taste drucken! Please press a key!

SUPER SHORT-CUTS FOR YOUR 8-BIT SYSTEM

(Reprinted from an info gathered by Terry Koelling in THE ACORN KERNEL, 8/87; originally courtesy JACG NEWSLETTER, 6/87)

QUICK RAM CHECK: Checks ram from just below Basic down to location 10. 10 ? FRE(0): GOSUB 10 Type RUN and the screen should show numbers down left side counting DOWN by 4 locations. It should end with: ERROR- 2 AT LINE 10

GTIA OR CTIA: Some older systems had CTIA video chip and could not display the newer modes of graphics. 10 GRAPHICS 10 20 GOTO 20 Type RUN. If the screen goes black, then you have the new GTIA. If it goes blue, you have the CTIA and should upgrade.

A OR B REV. ROMS: Older systems had "A" ROMS and they had some bugs. "B" ROMS corrected them. ? PEEK (58383) "B" ROMS=0..."A" ROMS were generally 56, but anything other than 0.

MORE ON ROMS: ? PEEK (64728) If\ 162 then 400/800 system, otherwise, XL ? PEEK (65528) 400/800 ONLY 221="A" ROM 214="A" PAL ROM 243="B" ROM 34="B" PAL ROM ? PEEK (65527) XL only ? PEEK (65527) XL only 10=1200 XL 1st. Rev. 11=1200 XL 2nd. Rev. 1=600/800 XL 1st. Rev. 2=600/800 XL 2nd. Rev.

WHICH BASIC REV. DO YOU HAVE? ? PEEK (43234)

168= Rev. A (Almost all 400/800) 96=Rev. B (Early XL's; many serious bugs; get Rev. C) 234= Rev. C (Latest and greatest)

TO FORCE A COLD START Type A=USR(61733) for 400/800 A=USR(58487) for 1200 XL A=USR(58484) for 1200 XL WARM START.

TURN OFF ANTIC: To speed up processing (like when doing sorts), turn off ANTIC (Screen goes black) POKE 559,0 -> off ... POKE 559,34 -> on If your screen is setup up with a picture (format) that you want back, then first PEEK (559), and save the value. When you want to restore it, just POKE that same value back into location 559.

DISABLE THE 'BREAK' KEY: You may want to protect your program from someone using the BREAK key to stop it POKE 16,64 and POKE 53774,16 at the start and after each GRAPHIC command.

REBOOT WITH 'RESET' KEY: You may want to force a re-boot from disk if someone hits the reset key, perhaps in order to break into and list your Basic program. POKE 580,1 in your program

DISABLE THE KEYBOARD: To disable the keys of the keyboard from your program. POKE 16,255

MAKE YOUR BASIC PROGRAM UNLISTABLE: You may want to protect your Basic program so no one can "see" your code. 1) POKE 202,1 ... will erase your program after anything that causes the "READY" prompt, i.e., ... END or RESET or BREAK. 2) Add the following line to your program: MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A BACKUP OF YOUR PROGRAM WITHOUT THIS LINE!! 32767 POKE PEEK(138)+256*PEEK(139)+2,0:SAVE "D:Filename":NEW (Type ...) GOTO 32767 The program can be executed, but not listed!

TURN OFF BEEPS WHEN LOADING PROGRAMS: POKE 65,0=off ... POKE 65,3=on

START THE 'ATTRACT' MODE: POKE 77,129

OUTPUT TO PRINTER INSTEAD OF SCREEN: POKE 838,166:POKE 839,238 Back to the screen: POKE 838,163:POKE 139,246

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Line Delation Program

Append to your BASIC Program and to call it, type: 'GOTO 32761'

```
32760  END 32761  GRAPHICS 0:POSITION 4,1:? "LINE DELETER":? :?          :REM TO USE -TYPE>
GO TO 32761 32762      ? "BEGINNING line number":INPUT TOPLNO:? "ENDING          line number":INPUT BOTLNO:? "Intervals:":INPUT STPR
32763  FOR LINENO=TOPLNO TO BOTLNO STEP STPR 32764  ? CHR$(125):POSITION 2,4:? LINENO:? "CONT":POSITION          2,0:POKE 842,13:STOP
32765  POKE 842,12 32767  END
```

News Items

FLASH! THIS JUST CAME IN (Thanks to the CLEVATARI Newsletter of August): In the world of computers, several new development promise great impact on the world of the 8 and 16-bit ATARI/ST's ...

Supersoft of Sudbury, Ontario, CAN, is developing an IBM compatible cartridge for the 8-bit ATARI computers. The cartridge contains a special ROM/CPU that enables it to run both MS-DOS software and CP/M.

Called "SUPER-CART," this piece of hardware, when inserted into the cartridge slot of an ATARI 130XE will allow such programs as: LOTUS 1-2-3 and - FLIGHT SIMULATOR for the PC to run perfectly.

If additional memory is needed, another cartridge called, "SUPER-RAM" hooks on top of SUPER-CART. This allows a 130XE to run GEM type windows. There is also a special cartridge for the 800 which gives it an additional 72K and internal software to mimic the 130XE. In order to use the SUPER-RAM cartridge in the 800, a ribbon cable is needed to connect the SUPER-CART cartridge to the SUPER-RAM cartridge to overcome the 800's closing hatch problem.

Another development by SUPERSOFT is an 8-bit to 16-bit emulator. A T-bar shaped cartridge installs into the cartridge slot of an XE. A small box is plugged into the back of the I/O port of a 1050, then connected with a cable to an ST disk drive 8-bit computer.

SUPERSOFT is awaiting permission from ATARI to release the emulator and "... iron out just a few small inefficiencies in the speed of operations software ROM. It will successfully emulate the blitter chip in the final version."

The best part is the price for all of this new hardware: SUPER-CART, SUPER-RAM and SUPER/ST-CART will each be priced at $99!

XM301 MODEM WARNING (Reprinted from an article by Paul Alhart in the C.L.A.U.G. Newsletter, 7/87; originally from WAND via SCAT Newsletter, 6/87)

If you own an XM301 modem, you may own an electronic "time bomb." After a rash of hardware failures last month, which included "smoking" a disk drive and two printer interfaces, I found the cause of my problem to be my uXM301 modem.u The modem worked fine, but was killing off my system piece by piece.

The reason has to do with the thirteen wires coming from the serial I/O plug, although only nine wires are actually used by the modem. The other four wires have about 1/8 inch of bare wire showing and are just hanging around unterminated, waitin g to touch something they shouldn't (Murphy's Law). I have checked other XM301 modems and this

condition existed in them as well.

Here is what to do immediately:

With the power OFF, remove the two screws from the bottom of the modem and lift off the plastic case. Inspect the wires where they enter the modem. You will find that four of the wires are not connected to anything. If these wires have ANY bar e metal showing, ucut it offu. Be careful to keep the cut-off pieces from falling into the modem. Next, tape each wire individually, so that it cannot possibly touch any other wires or parts in the modem. Put the modem back in its case, replace th e screws and you're done. I have written to ATARI regarding this problem but have not received a reply as yet.

NOTE: This may be an isolated problem, but when I check my modem, I found bare wires looking for trouble. I found heat shrink tubing worked best. If you own an XM301, I highly recommend checking for this potential disaster NOW!

PRINTER ITEM by ALEX PIGNATO

I have a STAR GEMINI10X vintage printer. It has served as a faithful workhorse for me for years, and is used at least 6 days a week. In all that time, I had one stupid problem, when some grease got on the platens belt causing it to slip at times...I am so pleased with the product that I have ordered a STAR NX10 for my daughter.

I came across some interesting things quite by accident, and I would like to share them with those of you who own either the STAR printers or the EPSON printer. I have not been able to test with any printer but the GEMINI, but from past experience, I'll bet it works on the others as well (or almost as well anyway). At one time JOSEF LEBER and I exchanged various 'CHR$' codes and we found that most of them worked on his 'PANASONIC' printer, so here goes.

Using the 'CTRL' key with the following letters will give you different results, when inserted in any basic text program that is printed with 'LPRINT' command and right after the " (quotation) marks.

CTRL+I = INDENTS, 5 SPACES. CTRL+N = VERY LARGE LETTERS. CTRL+O = SMALL SIZE LETTERS. CTRL+S = BLANK SPACE CTRL+K = SKIPS 5 OR 6 LINES. CTRL+L = SKIPS MANY MORE LINES.

I haven't really put these commands through any real tests, but I wanted to beat the deadline to get this article into the newsletter, so I'll leave it to you to let me know how good they are!

This is an example of its use: 10 LPRINT "(CTRL N)THIS IS A TEST LINE- LARGE LETTERS" 20 LPRINT "(CTRL O)THIS IS A TEST LINE-SMALL LETTERS" 30 etc. 40 etc.

O.K. now quick, get to the printer and see if they work!!!

A MINI REVIEW OF FIRST XLENT WORD PROCESSOR
by Alex Pignato

A full review of 'THE FIRST XLENT WORD PROCESSOR' will be written for our newsletter soon, I hope. For now, however, I would only like to make the following observations, in case you are considering buying a 'WORD PROCESSOR'. BUY! BUY! BUY!--its that good!

It has more features than a barrel of monkeys, and is a very FRINDLY USER type program, running with many help menus, available via the use of the function keys. For instance, need HELP? Just hit the 'HELP

FUNCTION KEY' for FOUR (4) help screens,thats right I said 4! If that isn't enough, hit 'SELECT', and presto you have the commands for SIX (6) PRINTER CODES, from 'BOLDFACE, to SUPERSCRIPT'. Of course it also has all the other features you would expect from a first quality word processor,such as 'MAIL MERGE, SEARCH and REPLACE' and a host of other features which should be covered by a more in depth review.

I have to hand it to 'XLENT SOFTWEAR' company, they really are SUPPORTIVE of the 8 BIT MACHINE, witness all their other well thought out programs, 'PAGE DESIGNER, RUBBER STAMP' etc. Support them, and at the very least, drop them a line and tell them you appreciate and enjoy their programs, and to please continue. Their address is: XLENT SOFTWARE Co. P. O. Box 5228 Springfield, VA. 22150 Att.: Linda or Barbara Whisper- "(pst) DENNIS of the OL' HACKERS sent me!" for preferential treatment!

I would be less than honest; however, if I did not register my negative feelings about their documentation booklet. Oh yes, its ALL IN THE BOOKLET, the only problem is that I felt that there should be a better CONTENTS' page with a more thorough breakdown of the various functions. Too many of them are lumped together. I also feel that there should be an INDEX, at the end. In this manner, you are bound to find which command you want and need, without thumbing through the entire booklet. I find that there are many features of this word processor that it will take a long time to learn, and I am sure that we would all agree that TIME IS OF ESSENCE when using the computer. Most people find it very hard to remember whether to use 'CTRL+(a letter or number), or 'OPTION+( ), or CTRL-SHIFT+( )' etc. etc.

As I said up above, if you are in the market for an 'EXCELLENT' (XLENT) WORD PROCESSOR: BUY! BUY! BUY! (it!)

ANTIC Copyright Policy (Adapted from POKEY, the W.N.Y.A.W.G. Newsletter, 7/87)

Leo Newman, Sysop of a Public Domain BBS in the Buffalo area, wants to encourage a letter writing campaign to Antic Magazine to counter the growing problem of finding good quality Public Domain software. He reports that prior to April, 1984, Antic did not claim copyrights to their software printed as type-in-programs in their magazine. In an attempt to force users to either type in their programs or buy their Disk issues, they are now claiming exclusive rights to their programs.

This creates a problem for Public Domain BBS's for it strictly prohibits the sharing of these programs by downloading off of a BBS or storing them in any club library without prior written permission. As Mr. Newman has never been successful obtaining the necessary permission to his many requests and discovering that a local club, M.A.C.E., has received adament demands from Antic's Editor to remove all Antic programs from their BBS, he fears that no one is going to get this precious permission.

Mr. Newman further explains that Antic is a member of the S.P.A. (Software Producers of America) which, in an attempt to protect commercial interest, is trying to track down and prosecute any BBS that places commercial software for downloading purposes. He argues that Analog Magazine, which also sells Disk issues and might possibly incur a loss of revenue, still allows their programs to be placed on public BBS's and in club libraries for the publication month of the magazine.

He feels that reviewing the reader feedback in each month's Antic is becoming

e and more like one big commercial because it is filled with their "hype!" While he acknowledges that he "can't blame them for wanting to make money," he wonders, "what is their CATALOG for anyway?" If you wish to assist him in his efforts, address your letters to: James Capparell c/o Antic Magazine 524 Second Street San Francisco, CA 94107

stating that you feel Antic should allow their type-in programs be placed on BBS's and in club libraries in the same manner as their fierce competitor, Analog, does. Perhaps we ALL can persuade Antic to look past the dollar sign to save their valuable readership!

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By: R. Constan © 1985

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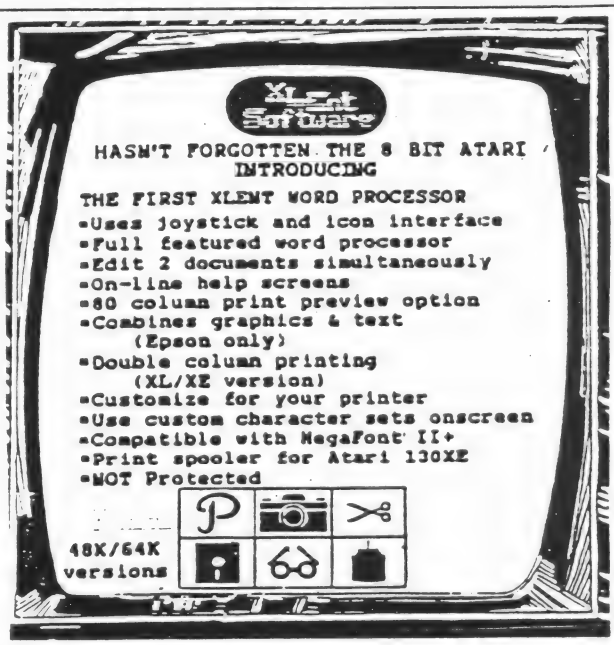
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Xx SURGE PROTECTION
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DO-IT-YOUSELF SURGE PROT. FOR YOUR COMPUTER

When setting up a computer system, one piece of equipment which might get overlooked is a surge protector. The purpose of a surge protector is to protect equipment from voltage spikes and surges caused by lightning strikes on power lines (c'mon, it never rains is Southern California, does it?), electrical equipment turning on and off (you didn't really plug your computer into the same circuit as your refrigerator, did you?), the crummy wiring in your apartment that your landlords won't fix because they're too cheap, and just plain lousy performance by your friendly local Edison Company.

A surge protector works by clamping the voltage and preventing it from rising beyond 130 volts when a sudden increase occurs. To do this, a surge protector uses a device called a metal oxide varistor, or MOV for short. Of course, you want to know if they wear out, and when they do, how to tell. MOVs do have a finite life, depending on the number and severity of surges they're exposed to. When they fail, they typically create a short which will ccc a circuit breaker if one is included in the circuit, immediately shutting off the power and saving the equipment.

Buying a surge protector is something of a problem, since not all surge protectors are created equal. Good ones are fairly expensive (there's plenty of expensive junk out there, too); how do you tell the good from the bad, and what do you do for cash after you spent the last of it on some superwhizbang software for your new computer? Good news for you clever hacker types who can tell a hot soldering iron when you pick it up (by the wrong end): Make your own surge protector. It's easy, it's cheap, and best of all, it might even work. For the rest of you who haven't developed opposable thumbs yet, watch the ground for pennies, steal candy from babies and sell it to bigger babies, see a loan shark, and read PC (Can you say, "PC?" Sure. I knew you could. It does mean IBM, but your tongue didn't dry up and fall out of your mouth, did it?) Magazine's product tests and take their advice.

Anyway, on to the project. You'll need a power strip (make sure you get the kind you can disassemble with a screwdriver instead of a hacksaw), three metal oxide varistors (General Electric part no. V130LA20A (which means 130 volts 20 amps) or Radio Shack catalog no. 276-568B), some rosin core solder (DO NOT USE ACID CORE SOLDER OR FLUX: it will corrode the solder joints in time, ruining them), some miscellaneous tools, like Xacto knives, alligator clips, wire cutters, etc., and a soldering iron. Three hands would be nice, but you can probably manage with two. Most of us do.

Take the back off the power strip and look inside. It probably looks like the drawing included in this archive. If it doesn't, don't worry. If it has outlets, wires (three of them?), and a cord, it'll work. Notice the three wires inside: they're probably black, green, and white. White is the hot wire, green the ground, and black the common. Now, strip some insulation off the wires as shown in the illustration. Take one varistor and solder

of its' wire legs to the white wire, and the other leg to the green wire as shown. Fasten an alligator clip to the leg being soldered between the solder joint and the varistor to prevent heat damage to the varistor while soldering. Do the same thing with the second varistor, except it should be soldered to the green wire and the black wire. Solder the third varistor to the black wire and the white wire.

Clean the solder joints with a rag dipped in a little alcohol, and examine the joints. There should be a smooth shiny flow of solder between the wire leg of the varistor and the copper wire in the power strip. If the joint is dull, lumpy, or flawed in appearance, resolder it. When all the joints look good, reassemble the power strip. Sit back. Relax. You're done now. Wasn't that easy? Can you say, "Easy?" Sure. I knew you could.

-Garry Jones- Compuserve: 72030,273 GENIE: GXRAY ---------- This week's charging of nine youths in Pennsylvania in an alleged computer cracker ring may lead to further arrests in up to seven other states.

A six-week investigation of alleged computer intrusion and credit card fraud culminated with the arrests of the nine, all students at Mount Lebanon Junior-Senior High School, ages 14 to 17.

Local and federal authorities accuse the Mount Lebanon nine -- eight boys and one girl, unidentified in press accounts because they are minors -- of feloniously using home computers to raid the files of a credit card authorization center on the West Coast and obtain lists of card numbers and expiration dates.

Police say the teens ordered thousands of dollars in merchandise, from clothes to skateboards. The nine also are accused of making long- distance telephone calls with stolen access codes and making phone hookups between their computers and systems in banks, businesses and government agencies.

Investigators told the wire service they found evidence of one conference call involving 10 computer operators, one of them in France.

Computer vandals from across the country apparently are responsible for some $38,800 worth of unauthorized telephone calls charged to a Des Moines, Iowa, law firm's account.

A spokesman for the firm of Davis, Hockenberg, Wine, Brown, Koehn and Shors told The Associated Press he took a call from several Texas youngsters who said they got the firm's 700 number, used to set up conference calls, from a computer bulletin board system. The BBS has been traced to New Jersey, he said.

Now the firm has added a piece of equipment to make it possible for employees to call from outside the office into the system using a secret number for billing. ---------- New York authorities said they have confiscated the computers of three alleged crackers accused of breaking into systems operated by telephone companies, financial institutions and credit bureaus across the country.

The three juveniles -- two boys in Brooklyn and another in Bronxville -- may be part of the same so-called "network" of crackers revealed earlier this week with the arrests of nine youths in Mount Lebanon, Pa.

Investigators have confiscated computer systems, hundreds of diskettes, manuals and printouts that filled 21 boxes from the three

youths. The telephone records showed the three made calls to banks, credit bureaus, insurance companies, universities and other large computer systems.

The US Secret Service is said to be conducting investigations with local authorities in as many as seven states in connection with the ring.

---------- Xx ZMAG

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ...SG10 Printer Driver ---------- After 2 years of frustration and many dollars spent on "custom" printer drivers, I think I have a solution.

Below is a printer driver that I have been using with great success to solve many of the Star Gemini - AtariWriter+ problems. It may give you some ideas to help you build one that will suit your own needs.

UNDERLINE DRIFT ========== Most of my word processor print outs require underlining in NLQ. If you have tried this with inverse video underline command you will have a problem with what is called underline "drift". The words and underline "drift" down as the printer does half spacing. Since I seldom have need for superscript or subscript, I have eliminated the type font macros for these and substituted direct codes for underline on and underline off (AW+ [controls G8 and G9 are what I use]. My printer driver allows for the use of inverse video when in draft mode. To underline in NLQ I use the G8 to begin underline and G9 to end underline. NO DRIFT!! Many times I will creat my document using inverse for rough drafts and then when I am ready for final print out go back and visually key off the inverse video, insert the G8 and G9 codes there and "undo" the inverse video using [control] U.

You will also find that the G8 and G9 codes will give you a "solid" underline (underlining the spaces between words as well).

TURNING OFF NLQ AND MIXING FONTS ========== My printer driver allows some degree of flexibility to change fonts using the "G" codes. You will note that all Font type commands begin with 27 66 5. This is the SG10 code to turn off NLQ. If you are in NLQ and want to change to italics with double strike you may do so with G5 and G7 command. If you look at the G1 (pica) commands you will see the commands to turn off all the other font styles. It is important to remember that you MUST "pass through" G1 to move from all typestyles except NLQ or you might get some funny looking print outs.

In effect G1 will "undo" everything (except underline) and put you back in draft mode. If you have need for subscript and superscript AND NLQ underlining, you may need to make modifications to this program. This can be done by substituting sub and superscript for perhaps Elite and condenced fonts. If you do this be sure to also substitute the "turn off commands" in the G1 (pica) codes. It would be a good Idea to keep a print out of which G codes you are using for what on hand.

It may also be necessary to build more than one driver if your documents vary in format. Hope this is of some help to all the SG10 users.

CODES TO ENTER FOR EDITOR PROMPTS: ==========

Initalize every line blank Line feed R 155
Underline off blank Underline on
blank Backspace 8 Elongate off
27,87,0 Elongate on 27,87,1 Bold off
27,70 Bold on 27,69 Up 1/2 line
blank Down 1/2 line blank Down 1/2 line and CR blank Return w/o line feed 155

Font Type Codes
========== 1 Pica

```
27 66 5 27 53 27                                72 27 112 0
2      Condensed                  27 66 5 27 66 3 3
Proportiional   27 66 5 27 112 1 4          NLQ
   27 66 4 5    Italics              27 66 5 27 52 6
  Elite              27 66 5 27 66 2 7      Double
Strike  27 66 5 27 71 8      Underline on    27
45  1  9           Underline  off        27  45  0
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ATARI

9 Reasons Why We're So Friendly

1. P:R:Connection Now you're no longer limited to Atari Only printers and MODEMS . . . the P:R:Connection is a flexible alternative to the Atari 850 interface. Suddenly hundreds of printers and MODEMS become compatible with your Atari, you can even share the same printer and MODEM with your ST or IBM PC.

The P:R:Connection plugs directly into the serial (disk drive) port of any 8 bit Atari and provides the user with a standard 'centronics' printer port and two RS-232 type serial ports. It also draws its energy from your computer which means one less cord fighting for an outlet while its compact size leaves your work space virtually clutter-free. The P:R:Connection's serial ports resemble those of the 850 interface, possessing the same signals and functions and using a fully compatible built in R: handler. Why not make your connection the right connection . . . with our Connection! **$89.95** 6 ft. Standard MODEM Cables **$14.95** 6 ft. Standard Printer Cables **$14.95**

2. Printer Connection It may look just like an ordinary cable . . . but don't let it's simplistic styling fool you! This little dynamo's electronics are built right into the cable end and it possesses the power of compatibility . . . *printer* compatibility. (Compatible with all 'centronics' parallel printers.) With the Printer Connection, you're no longer limited to 'Atari Only' printers.

So, for you "adventurous" Atari owners who dare to explore the world of printers . . . this one's for you! **$59.95**

3. Multi I/O Five functions in one box give your 130XE or 800XL the leading edge in performance and execution.

1) RAMDISK: Choose from two versions: 256K or 1Meg. Built in software allows the RAM to be partitioned into multiple disks as desired. The Multi I/O has its own AC power supply which allows the RAM to retain its memory when the computer is off.
2) PARALLEL PRINTER INTERFACE: A 'centronics' type parallel interface which uses a standard 850 cable. Accessed as P1: or P2: with or without LF.
3) SERIAL PRINTER/MODEM INTERFACE: This port accepts either a serial printer or RS232 type MODEM. The 850 handler is built in: always there when needed, which means an extra 1800 bytes of free memory! Built in software also allows a serial printer to appear as a parallel printer and provides it with XON/XOFF software handshaking.
4) SPOOLER: Use any amount of RAM as a print spooler. Works with either of the specified printer ports. Built in software features: Pause, Resume, Repeat Copies, Clear and Size.
5) HARD DISK INTERFACE: Supports up to eight SASI and SCSI controllers at the same time to use industry standard 5-1/4" and/or 3-1/2" hard drives. 256K **$199.95** 1Meg **$349.95** 130XE Adapter (adds two cartridge slots) **$19.95**

4. Optional 80 Column Adapter Tune-in to 80 columns of information with the addition of our new 80 Column Adapter. Simply plug it inside of the Multi I/O case and watch it perform! The Adapter supports both monochrome composite and RGBI monitors. **$99.95**

AFA 80 Column Boards (for the Atari 800) **$99.95**

5. US Doubler Expanding the 1050's strength is what ICD's US Doubler is all about . . . a true performer in the niche of hardware modifications. With the simple addition of this chip set, your Atari is transformed into a powerhouse, radiating with innovative qualities never before possessed in a 1050: like true double density for greater storage and an accelerated I/O rate designed to triple your speed when combined with SpartaDOS.

Furthermore, the US Doubler is fully compatible with existing Atari software and not only supports true double density but, single density and the 130KB 'Dual Density' (1050 Mode) as well. ICD's US Doubler Package comes complete with two plug-in chips and SpartaDOS Construction Set (including two manuals and two program diskettes). **$69.95**

US Doubler 1-4 without SpartaDOS Construction Set **$39.95**

6. SpartaDOS Construction Set Perfection . . . that's how we describe our DOS and we're sure you'll agree when you put the SpartaDOS Construction Set to work. It supports everything from the 810 disk drive to hard disk drives, RAMDISKS with the RAMBO XL modified 800XL or 1200XL, the 130XE, the modified 320K XE plus the AXLON 128 board for the 800! And there's more . . .

A special menu file allows rapid transfer, erasure and lock or unlock of tagged files, using only the Space Bar, Option, Start, and Select keys. The utility package also features a 32 character keyboard buffer, intelligent switching between disk densities, a binary file game menu, subdirectories, time/date file stamping, and a 175 page manual containing everything you ever wanted to know about SpartaDOS and the US Doubler. **$39.95**

7. SpartaDOS X Just what your 8 bit has been waiting for . . . a cartridge based DOS which adds increased power to your computer and includes a surplus of features such as 80 column support, Ultra Speed operation with the US Doubler and the new 3-1/2" Atari drives plus high speed support for standard Indus GT drives. And for you programmers, now the time consuming process of searching and indexing is streamlined due to the built in data base's incredible speed. **$79.95**

8. R-Time 8 We've got the *time* if you've got the Atari. In fact, the R-Time 8 will even provide you with continuous and automatic date information as well! Its unique piggyback cartridge sports a clock board and a three to five year battery back up. A top extension port welcomes the use of additional cartridges since this handy device of ours requires no cartridge area memory of its own. What's more, the R-Time 8 works with all DOS types and plugs into any slot on your Atari computer.

Put our SpartaDOS to work with the R-Time 8 and just like magic . . . each file you create or rewrite is now instantly tagged with time and date information. We're sure that the R-Time 8 will add a new and exciting dimension to your Atari, one that you'll rely on *time* after *time*! **$69.95**.

9. RAMBO XL You'll be saying "thanks for the memory!" after the RAMBO XL transforms your 800XL or 1200XL into a mighty 256K computer and makes it memory compatible with the 130XE. Now your XL can support BASIC XE extended mode or the standard 64K RAMDISK supplied with Atari DOS 2.5. The new RD.COM handler supplied with SpartaDOS Construction Set gives a 192K RAMDISK . . . that's enough memory to duplicate a full double density disk in one pass! Our RAMBO XL package includes a plug-in decoding board and complete installation instructions.

You must supply the eight 256K DRAMS (available from ICD for $32.00) and the DOS of your choice. The RAMBO XL provides a low cost answer to high performance memory enhancement. **$39.95**

Get Your Computer A Friend Today!

ICD, INC. • 1220 Rock Street
Rockford, IL 61101-1437 • (815) 968-2228
ELN:6289-3936 • FAX:(815) 968-6888

Minutes Of The Meeting Aug. 1987

GENERAL Meeting:

Our regular August meeting began when Alex asked the three new potential members to introduce themselves and to state why they are attending today's meeting.

TREASURY

Jim McGuire read the treasurers report and it was quickly accepted. Jim also requested that the members be on the look out for the following used equipment, Atari 130XE, 800XL, 850 interface, disk drives. When purchased, the club will be able to have permanent equipment assigned for our demonstrations at the monthly meetings.

MAIL Call:

Alex read a letter he had received from an Atarian, J.C.Petty, U.S.Navy, now serving in Italy who has an APO address. In his letter he wanted to secure copies of our newsletter. Alex promptly sent him numerous copies for his use, along with a full disk of Public Domain (both sides) programs.

FLOPPY Disks:

A new supply of disks were available to members. These disks are purchased by bulk and the savings passed on to the members. Sales were extremely brisk.

SOCIAL Event:

Jerry Ginsberg came through with a couple of estimates of package deals from the Royal Lancer restaurant in Lake Success. The quoted prices were for Monday through Thursday. We can arrange the package to be with or without liquor and we must guarantee a minimum of forty people. In order to spread the information Jerry has obtained, all the Ol'Hackers BBS's will carry a notice of this coming social event.

ATARI Fairs!:

Alex relayed the latest known information concerning local "Atari Fairs". He then lead a discussion concerning these type of fairs and the possibility of our involvement in the future.

Kevin Blaes and Alex are looking for articles. All types, for our monthly newsletter. Alex threw out a couple of suggestions to start the ball rolling. Some topics were "Feature Member of the Month", a "Running Debate", such as those being carried on thru our BBS's, "How To", "Did You Know", "How TO Solve (Program Name)", etc. If you can name it, you can write it. Our newsletter does not have any write restriction tabs in it.

New LIBRARY

We sure are moving along: First came the disk library, second the magazine library and now in the works is a "Newsletter Library". A system to lend out newsletters that have been received from all over the country is presently being set up. The details of it's operation should be completed and an announcement will be made at the September meeting.

DEMO'S

Neil Griffin, Wet & Wild BBS, put on a demo of partial structure of "Southern AmisXe". Included was a discussion of what people would like to see and should be available September 1st.

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EQUIPMENT

Josef Leber, acting equipment manager for the summer, would like to thank all those members who brought hardware to our meetings for demonstrations. Mike Patterson will be back from his summer hibernation and will again serve as equipment manager.

Future Meeting Dates For The Ol' Hackers

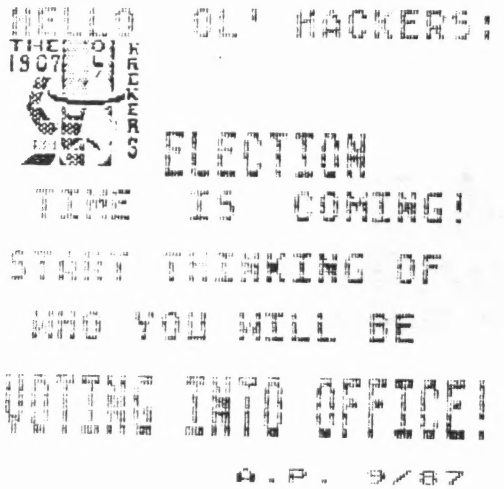
Up-coming meeting dates for the Ol'Hackers is as follows:

1) September 26, 12:30pm 2) October 17, 12 pm 3) November 28, 12:30pm 4) December 19, 12 pm
All dates are Saturdays and are at the Plainview/Old Bethpage Library.

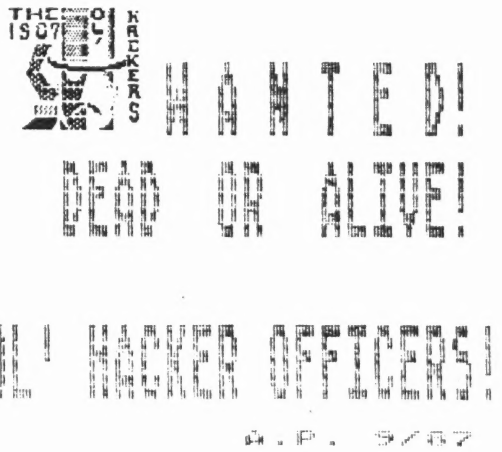
C U L 8 T R.

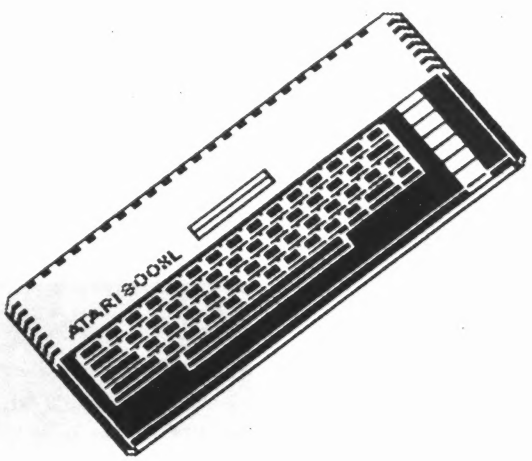
Secretary,

Allen Atkins

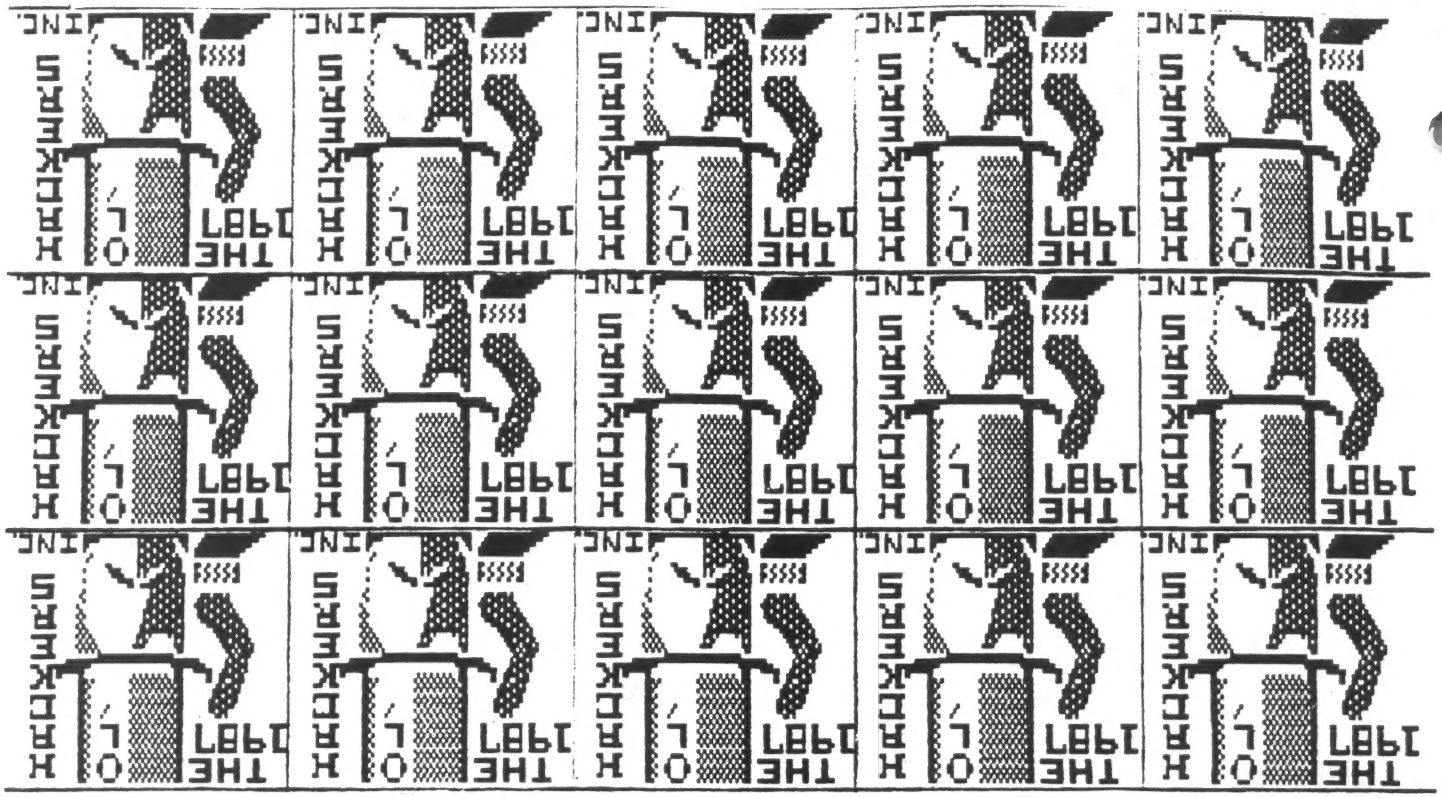


ATARI
Power Without the Price





FIRST CLASS MAIL



Alex Pignato
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